

Message Text

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21

ACTION EA-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-11 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-07 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-03 SS-20 OMB-01

SY-04 USSS-00 SCCT-02 NSCE-00 SSO-00 USIE-00 INRE-00

AID-20 DRC-01 /103 W

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O 190449Z AUG 74

FM AMEMBASSY TOKYO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 4000

INFO AMEMBASSY SEOUL IMMEDIATE

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: JAKS, PINT, PFOR

SUBJ: PARK ASSASSINATION ATTEMPT

REF: SEOUL 5835, 5839

1. OSAKA POLICE HAS CONFIRMED TO PRESS FOLLOWING ITEMS REGARDING ASSASSINATION ATTEMPT:

A. MURDER WEAPON WAS SMITH AND WESSON, ONE OF TWO PISTOLS STOLEN FROM OSAKA POLICE BOX. OTHER GUN TURNED UP DURING SEARCH OF MUN'S ROOMS.

B. MRS. YOSHII AIDED MUN IN GETTING PASSPORT. SHE CLAIMS SHE HAD NO IDEA OF USE TO WHICH IT WOULD BE PUT.

C. SEARCH OF MUN'S QUARTERS ALSO YIELDED NINE PAGE "WAR DECLARATION", DATED AUGUST 1, 1974 AND SIGNED BY HIM CALLING FOR ARMED UPRISING IN ROK AND RAILING AT PRESIDENT PARK. PORTIONS OF TEXT QUOTED HERE DO NOT MENTION ASSASSINATION OF PARK AS FIRST STEP IN REVOLUTION.

2. SO FAR THERE HAS BEEN LITTLE FROM HERE TO CONFIRM LINK BETWEEN NORTH KOREA AND ASSASSINATION ATTEMPT, AS CHARGED IN SEOUL. KIM HO RYONG, THE SUB-REGIONAL BRANCH CHIEF OF LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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THE KOREAN RESIDENT'S ASSOCIATION ACCUSED OF TRANSMITTING

ASSASSINATION ORDERS AND FUNDS TO MUN, HELD PRESS CONFERENCE IN OSAKA YESTERDAY. KIM SAID HE KNEW MUN, BUT DENIED KNOWLEDGE OF OR CONNECTION WITH ASSASSINATION ATTEMPT. KIM FURTHER DENIED ANY ACQUAINTANCE WITH MRS. YOSHII, AND BRANDED CHARGES AGAINST HIM BY SEOUL PROSECUTOR'S OFFICE AS FASCIST PLOT.

3. EDITORIAL COMMENT ON TANAKA ATTENDANCE AT FUNERAL HAS BEEN GINGERLY. INITIAL RAISED EYEBROWS OVER WHETHER OR NOT PRIME MINISTER'S ATTENDANCE WAS APPROPRIATE HAVE BEEN FOLLOWED BY GRUDGING STATEMENTS THAT VISIT MIGHT CONTRIBUTE TO IMPROVEMENT IN RELATIONS WITH ROK. PRESS URGED THAT PARK ASSASSINATION ATTEMPT BY KEPT SEPARATE FROM OTHER ISSUES BETWEEN THE TWO GOVERNMENTS AND THAT TANAKA MAKE NO DEALS DURING VISIT. FOR ITS PART, FOREIGN MINISTRY HAS BEEN LEAKING STATEMENT THAT PURPOSE OF TRIP TO EXPRESS SYMPATHY ONLY, AND IN NO WAY TO BE INTERPRETED AS APOLOGY.
HODGSON

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Message Attributes

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Draft Date: 19 AUG 1974
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
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30 JUN 2005

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